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In this issue:

Mustard Seed  
and FISH  
+  
Priory People:  
Colin Whiteside  
+  
PAAWS  
Dates  
Photos  
+  
Traidcraft  
+  
Tuesday Group  
+  
Open Doors  
+  
PCC Away Day  
+  
Priory Shop  
+  
Choir News

DEADLINE FOR THE  
MARCH 2018 ISSUE  
WILL BE:  
FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY



### THANKS from MUSTARD SEED

The photos above illustrate the wonderful response to our request for warm clothing. Much of this was gratefully accepted by many of our Mustard Seed guests. Very many thanks to all the members of the Priory congregation who so kindly rummaged in cupboards and attics to generate this terrific clothing and sleeping bag collection for our Mustard Seed guests. A large proportion of the items are already in use by the homeless in Lancaster.

### MUSTARD SEED AND FISH (Faith groups In Support of the Homeless)

Mustard Seed at the Priory is a member of FISH, an organisation in Lancaster which brings together a number of local groups in support of the homeless and vulnerable of the area in a variety of ways. These include the Christchurch Night Shelter; Lancaster and District Homeless Action Service (LDHAS) based at Edward Street and providing a range of services; Olive Branch giving support and operating a food bank; The Ark at St. Thomas' and ourselves at Mustard Seed offering a meal and fellowship on Friday and Tuesday evenings respectively. Others include Lancaster City Council; Christians Alive (who provide a breakfast on winter Sunday mornings); the Christmas Shelter (providing food and a bed for several nights); and Oak Tree House (offering supported housing to help the homeless make a fresh start). Representatives of these groups meet regularly during the year to plan co-operative activities, exchange information, keep up to date with what each is doing and provide valuable feedback. (Christine Dickinson is our Mustard Seed representative at these FISH meetings). The co-operation is especially vital during the winter period, in particular at Christmas which can be an even more difficult time for the homeless and vulnerable in our community. For example, over recent weeks there have been an average of 21 people at the Ark and 15 at Mustard Seed. On the Friday before Christmas 29 people went to the Olive Branch for help. At the Christmas Shelter 25 people enjoyed a Christmas dinner. Since its opening in early November Christchurch's Night Shelter has received a total of 41 different individuals, with an average of 6 per night. However, every year there is a gap in provision after the Christmas Shelter until the Christchurch Shelter opens in early January. This gap is currently the subject of discussion.

By the time you read this the annual Winter Warmer will have taken place at St Thomas' hall, when many of the above organisations get together to provide a meal and entertainment for up to about 40 guests.





## Priority People

Andrew Nicholson introduces an occasional series of profiles of Priority People. He begins the series with a profile of Colin Whiteside.

Colin is undeniably one of the longer-serving if not the longest-serving Priority member. In a career spanning more than 75 years, he has devoted himself to the Priory family in dedicated and selfless service.

Colin is a true Lancastrian. Born and bred in Lancaster he first appeared on the Priory scene in 1941 as a choirboy, when Alan Stephenson (formerly organist of Coventry Cathedral who came to the Priory after the bombing of the cathedral in 1940) was choirmaster. Colin remembers that these were great years to be in the choir – under Alan Stephenson’s direction the choir reached high standards and broadcast regularly on BBC Radio, a tradition continued by his successor, Henry Walmsley. Although expecting to leave the choir when Alan Stephenson retired – by this time he was Head Boy and his voice was changing – his leadership qualities were recognised and he was asked to stay on to support Henry Walmsley with the younger choristers in his first year. Then, as now, Colin was clearly a force to be reckoned with! Later, as is the case with many former choristers, he became a crucifer and server.

National Service with the RAF took Colin away from Lancaster and, such was the promise he showed in selection tests, at the end of this compulsory 3-year period he was given the option of a permanent career with the RAF, away from Lancaster. He decided, however, to return to Lancaster, took a job with Ribble Buses (where his father had worked as a driver) and began night school classes in electrical

engineering. Important qualifications soon followed enabling him to embark upon a career in the electrical supply industry, working initially at Lancaster Power Station. He was clearly a high flyer (though he would never put it like this) and rose rapidly through the ranks, working in 5 different power stations, until he eventually was appointed as a commissioning engineer at Heysham 1 & 2 Power Stations. There his work took him into the highly-charged field of industrial relations as much as with the technical complexities of electrical generation and supply, but on his watch good practice and procedures were established and harmony prevailed.

Colin doesn’t do things by halves! He never let the challenges of such a demanding job get in the way of immersing himself fully into the life of the Priory. And his record of service to our church family across the years is simply amazing and without parallel. Serving under 5 vicars (6 if you count his youthful years under Ben Pollard) he has been PCC member (1956 – 2012), Sidesman (1956 – present), Churchwarden (2000 – 2008), Ripley Governor (1982 – present), Priory Hall Trustee (1983 – present). These years have seen significant changes and challenges but throughout them all Colin has been a constant presence and a safe pair of hands at the tiller. In many of his roles - at the Priory and Ripley - he has been able to apply directly much of the practical knowledge and skills gained from his working life, and both are immeasurably the better for it. Whenever Colin has undertaken a job he has given it his all and gone far more than the extra mile to ensure success.

I have known Colin and Dorothy (who sadly died in 2001 and was also very involved in the life and work of the Priory), and their daughters Sarah and Jane, for almost all my life. I am very grateful to him for his friendship, kindness and support and for his example of integrity, honesty and Christian faithfulness.

Following the annual Founders’ Day Service at Ripley in July 2015 a special ceremony was held to open the academy’s new Science Labs. The new block was officially opened by the Chair of Governors, Professor John Crewdson, and has been named “The Colin Whiteside Block” in recognition of Mr Whiteside’s longstanding chairmanship of the Governors’ Buildings and Grounds Committee for over 20 years. Mr Whiteside is the academy’s longest serving Governor having been in post since 1982. Colin is pictured (right) with Prof Crewdson.



## Priority People - World and Community Group

On Sunday 21st January Rebecca Novell, CEO of the Marsh Community Centre, spoke movingly of the challenges faced by those living in this part of the Priory’s parish, and the amazing work that she and her colleagues are undertaking to help them. She offered her warm and sincere thanks for the Priory’s financial support, channelled via the World and Community Group.

Rebecca is between Rosemary and Christine on the accompanying photo.

## Walking with PAAWS in February



Above: On our January walk Dr Mary Anderton led us through woodland tracks around Witherslack - new to most of us with weather kind on this January day.

Friday February 9th: Bowston/Staveley - led by Catherine Fatkin (tel. 01524 64755) We meet at 1000 for a 1015 departure at the bridge in Bowston (OL7 498966), which lies between Burneside and Cowan Head on the road north out of Kendal. Parking is available on the road in Bowston.

The walk takes us along the river to Staveley, follows a loop ending back in Staveley, allowing for a refreshment pause at Wilf’s cafe, and returning to Bowston on the opposite side of the river. The walk is about 6 miles in length, mainly through fields, and with a couple of stiles and some gentle climbs.

Bring drinks and a picnic lunch. Usual cautions with regard to dogs, leads, and farm animals. Anyone intending to join the walk should make prior contact with Catherine, who is also the first port of call for anyone in need of transport.

Here are the dates for the next few months:

Specific details for each will be circulated before each walk:

March 8th: Led by John Harvey April 17th: Led by Nick Walker May 4th: Led by Rebecca Procter June 19th: Led by Andrew Nicholson July 31st: Led by Nick Walker



## PCC Away Day

The PCC will be having an Awayday at Dolphinholme Village Hall on Saturday 24th February, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm. We will be looking at where we are in the Priory, and seeking to form a Strategy for the next five years, as we respond to the challenges of the building (and the expensive repairs that will be required in coming years) and how we can better fulfil our mission “to serve the people of Lancaster.”

## Tuesday Group

At our meeting on 9th January, Mr Stephen Neaves, with the aid of his computer, spoke to us about the work of the charity Piccadilly. This charity provides day support and a wide range of activities for people with various disabilities, both physical and mental. It helps children from the age of eleven.

The charity is based locally in Scotforth and has been in existence for thirty years, the original activity concentrating on gardening.

Barbara Bland



## A Festival of Prayer Blackburn Cathedral

3rd February at 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

The event begins with Eucharist at 10.30am sung by the Young People’s Choir Stanford in C & F

View me, Lord Lloyd

Celebrant: The Bishop of Burnley Following the service there will be a keynote address by Canon Angela Tilby and workshops.

Full details are on the Home Page. For further enquiries or to book a place please contact Jean Duerden: jeanduerden@virginmedia.com

## Traidcraft

Thank you all who have supported Traidcraft in the last year.

Buying from Traidcraft has helped producers in the developing world work their way out of poverty by paying them a fair price for their goods and improving conditions in their communities.

Finally the sales from the stall have enabled £200 to be donated to Traidcraft exchange, their charity, which helps transform the lives of poor people in developing countries through a range of practical community projects. Christine

## Priory Book and Gift Shop

Sue Clark is retiring from running the Priory Gift Shop, and so we are looking for a Volunteer to take over the responsibility for our shop. This is a major commitment as the shop is an important part of our ministry welcome to tourists and pilgrims to the Priory. If this is something you think you might be interested in taking on, please have a conversation with Chris (The Vicar) who would be pleased to talk to you about the opportunities this presents.



In December, following tradition, Christine led us in an Advent service, followed by some Christmas readings taking an

alternative view of seasonal activities (an analysis of Santa Claus’ activities from the point of view of the physical restraints of mass, velocity and acceleration was particularly pointed). Paul Mullineaux provided us with keyboard accompaniment for the service hymns and for some Christmas songs.

Linda Altham, who has been a long time member of the Branch Committee, including serving as our Enrolling Member for many years, has decided to step down. She was given our thanks, a card and flowers to mark our appreciation, which we now reiterate. Thank you, Linda, for your deep commitment to Mothers’ Union, which will surely not end here.

Joan Harding had provided cakes for the after-service tea, served by members.

Thanks to all those who made the meeting so enjoyable!

January brought the Branch AGM; following Linda’s retirement from the Committee, Beverley Roberts joins it; Andrea Howson will be deputy Enrolling member.

Diary: (all meetings are held in the Refectory at 2pm, unless otherwise stated)

8th February: ‘Mass production’, (a talk on Mass settings) by Brian Kirtley

8th March: ‘Travels of a Diocesan President’, a talk by Enid Nutland.

12th April: ‘The beat goes on’, a talk on her further experiences in the police force by Marjorie Holt.

## Open Doors

Open Doors is the charity which the Priory supports and which we are highlighting in January.

- Open Doors is an international ministry serving millions of persecuted Christians in over 60 countries, including some of the most dangerous places in the world.

- For more than 60 years it has worked with churches and local partners to provide Bibles, leadership training, literacy programmes, livelihood support and advocacy services.

- Open Doors also seeks to mobilise the church in UK and Ireland to serve Christians living under religious persecution in such places as Iraq and Syria.

We have recently sent £1000 to this and the five other charities that the Priory has the privilege of supporting.

Rev. Michael R Fielding Chair, Priory World and Community Group





## Services:

### SUNDAY:

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.00 am Priory Eucharist  
All Age Eucharist (First Sunday of month)  
11.30 am Choral Mattins (First Sunday of month)  
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

### TUESDAY:

10.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)

### WEDNESDAY:

12.30 pm Holy Communion with Healing

### THURSDAY

12.45 pm Lunchtime Service at Penny's Hospital Chapel

## Saturday Coffee Concerts

Start your weekend with drama or music.

All events start at 10.30am and last about 30 - 45 minutes. Fairtrade drinks available from the Fig Tree café. See leaflet for further details.

## Report from the Priory Choir



The Choir had a busy time in the Christmas period. At the service of Nine Lessons and Carols we sang a number of pieces new to the repertoire. In addition to the popular Torches by Joubert (commemorating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2017), we introduced the very beautiful Here is the little door by Howells. This is a setting of words by Frances Chesterton and is dedicated to her husband, the better known G.K. In places the text is quite sombre, reflecting the time it was written, just before the end of World War I.

Our own Director of Music, Don Gillthorpe, contributed two new pieces: the anthem From East to West and a tune, Lancaster Priory, a setting of Sing of the child of Bethlehem, words by Chris Newlands. All of these pieces of course formed part of the familiar and much-loved pattern of the Nine Lessons service.

Some of this music appeared again in the two Candlelit Spectacular concerts, which have now become regular features of the pre-Christmas season. Familiar favourites, such as the arrangements by Julian Davies of Rudolph and Santa Claus is coming to town, were joined by a seasonal piece by John Rutter, The reluctant dragon. Once again this year we were pleased to welcome pupils from a number of Lancaster primary schools who took part in some of the items.

After a busy week the main choir were given a break on the morning of Christmas Eve when the 1000am Eucharist was sung by the Youth Choir, which welcomes back each year a number of choir alumni who are home in Lancaster for Christmas: it is always great to see and hear them again and to find out how they are progressing in their careers.

For the Midnight Mass a new setting had been commissioned from Oliver Tarney, a native of Lancaster but now Head of Singing and Composition at Winchester College. Oli has written for us in the past, and this Missa Media Nocte was greatly enjoyable to sing. Although the orchestral version hints at some carol tunes, we shall also be able to sing it on other occasions.

Looking ahead, new music to be added to the repertoire up to Easter includes Be thou my vision by Bob Chilcott and two pieces for the trebles: White's Prayer of St Richard of Chichester and Tota pulchra est by Duruflé. The full choir will be learning Stainer's setting of the Evensong Canticles for Easter Sunday.

At Christmas we sang the Hallelujah chorus from Handel's Messiah. We have this and some other extracts in the library, but would very much like to buy a set of the complete oratorio. We could then learn individual numbers, with a view to a complete performance at the Patronal Festival in 2019: nothing like planning ahead! To help finance this purchase the Choir are asking members of the congregation to sponsor a copy at £8.00 each: sheets on which you may sign up for a specific copy number, perhaps as a memorial, will be at the back of Church. The Choir will be most grateful for your support.

Finally, we hope you will enjoy the old and new music which the Choir will be singing at the services during the coming year. Brian Kirtley

News and information for inclusion in Priory Newslink is always welcome.  
Please send your items to

Email: [priorynewslink@gmail.com](mailto:priorynewslink@gmail.com),

by good old pen and paper, via the Parish Office (01524 65338)

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### SSM Associate Priests:

Revd Dr Anderson Jeremiah 01524 931861

### Curate:

Revd Dr Rebecca Aechtner

### Readers active in the Parish:

Dr Richard Carter

Mr Jim Garbett (Reader Emeritus)

Mrs Lois Kirtley

Mrs Christine Mullineaux

### Hon. Associate Priests:

Revd Gareth Beresford Jones

Revd Keith Brockbank

Revd Steve Evans

Revd Tim Evans

Revd. Paul Finlinson

Revd Canon Tim Girling

Revd Stephan Harker

Revd David Newton

Revd Canon Professor John Rodwell

Revd Canon John Roff

### Hon. Associate Minister:

Revd. Michael Fielding

### Parish Officers:

#### Wardens:

Dr Tim Jenkinson 01524 65595 Mr Andrew Nicholson 01524 60972

#### Treasurer:

Mrs B Gardner 01524 66430

#### Planned Giving:

Mrs Anne Maunder Mrs Barbara Gardner

#### Giving Officer:

Mr Andrew Nicholson (01524 60972)

#### Secretary:

Mrs Bron England 01524 65338 [lancasterpriory@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lancasterpriory@yahoo.co.uk)

#### Head Verger:

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Don Gillthorpe 0797 454 0037 [DoM@lancasterpriory.org](mailto:DoM@lancasterpriory.org)

##### Organist:

Ian Pattinson FRCO

##### Choral Director Emeritus:

Jeremy Truslove 01524 66204

##### Church Groups

###### Mothers' Union:

Christine Mullineaux

###### East meets West:

Hilary Hopwood

###### Mustard Seed:

John Dickinson

Brian Kirtley

###### Fairtrade:

John and Christine Dickinson

###### Sanctuary Guild

Lois Kirtley

###### Tuesday Group:

Pam Simon Denise Willey

###### Priory Youth Group:

David Cheung, Cath Hill and Sarah Hutchins.

###### Priory Young People's Officer

Katie Schad

###### Priory All Age Walking Group:

Tim and Gill Jenkinson Christine and John Dickinson

###### Young Church:

Leaders - Katie Schad Viv McCracken

Gill Jenkinson Jane Hartley

###### Social Group:

Andrea Howson David Cheung

###### The Priory Welcome, Outreach and Communications Committee

Alice Granger

###### Resources

Michael Greenhalgh

###### World and Community

Revd Michael Fielding

###### Spiritual Growth

Joop Brouwer

All those named above may be contacted through the Priory Office

###### Contributions for Newslink:

01524 65338 or Email: [priorynewslink@gmail.com](mailto:priorynewslink@gmail.com)

###### Diocese of Blackburn:

The Bishop of Blackburn, The Rt Revd Julian Henderson 01254 248234

The Bishop of Lancaster, VACANT

The Archdeacon of Lancaster: The Ven. Michael Everitt